

McGill Daily



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WORK UNDERWAY FOR NEW BUILDING

Engineering Gets Modern Facilities

Work has begun on McGill's new Engineering building at the corner of University and Milton Streets.

The site is presently occupied by two old residences which figured prominently in the early social life of Montreal. Demolition of these got underway last Wednesday.

TUITION FEES UP

Funds Needed To Pay Increased Salaries

McGill students will pay more for their education next year.

Increased tuition fees to augment the University's operating revenue have been announced by Principal F. Cyril James. Arts and Commerce fees rise from \$450 to \$550; Science from \$450 to \$600. Engineering and Architecture are up from \$551 to \$700.

Similar increases in other Faculties and Schools have been set tentatively. New rates are effective on September 1, 1958.

At the present time, 64.7% of the total operating expenditure of the University is represented by salaries, wages, and pensions. During the past seven years, total salary and wage payments have increased 108%, as the Board of Governors has endeavoured to raise the incomes of members of the staff to a reasonable level, while other operating expenditures have increased by less than 28%.

Operating revenues have not increased as rapidly as the need for funds to pay salaries and wages. During the 1955-56 session, the deficit amounted to \$192,840. In the following year, it rose to \$367,331, and at the end of the present session the deficit will exceed \$500,000. The salary and wage increases that are included in the budget for 1958-59 will raise expenditures to a level that exceeds by more than a million dollars the revenues now in sight.

EXISTENCE ENDANGERED

The Board of Governors asserts that such large deficits cannot be incurred continuously without seriously reducing the independence of the University, and in the long run endangering its very existence.

The increase of tuition fees is expected to increase revenues from this source by \$698,000, from \$3,390,006, during the present session to \$4,087,530 next year. This sum is substantially less than 40% of the expenditures, totalling \$11,108,566, which will be incurred in providing educational opportunities for students.

The Board of Governors is, however, conscious of the fact that increased tuition fees will create serious problems for those students who are already limited in their expenses and, in spite of the prospective deficit, has set aside one-tenth of the revenue from this source (\$70,000) to be used by the University Scholarships Committee to help such students by way of bursaries or loans. This appropriation will raise to more than \$170,000 the amount that is provided from general funds each year for student aid.

Even, however, when the increases in salaries and wages authorized in the 1958-59 budget are taken into account, the incomes received by members of the teaching staff, in many

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The new engineering centre will consist of a main section eight stories high and two subsidiary wings of five stories. It will be connected to the presently existing Engineering Building and to the Physical Sciences Centre.

Facilities to be housed in the building are drafting rooms, new quarters for the School of Architecture, space for the electrical engineering department, and two large lecture theatres.

The building is expected to be ready for occupancy in October of 1959. It will accommodate an additional 1500 engineering students, nearly doubling the present enrollment.

Up to the present, the site has been used as a parking lot for students. Because of the beginning of construction, all parking privileges there were cancelled as of Monday, May 19. Many efforts to find an alternative location have proven fruitless, and McGill students will apparently be completely on their own for parking next year.

OLD HOMES DEMOLISHED

The land on which the new building will stand was originally sold by McGill to James Duncan Bell. The house at 3480 University was subsequently occupied by the joint board of the cooperating Theological Colleges at McGill, the COTC, the Graduates' Society, The International Labour Office, the Bookstore, and the University Purchasing Department.

The other dwelling on the site was occupied by the Law faculty, the Department of Physical Education, and the School of Architecture. McGill has repurchased the land, which was sold just before Confederation to pay teachers' salaries.

Funds for the expansion of the engineering facilities were subscribed in the 1956 McGill Fund Campaign. The cost will be about \$2,500,000.

The general contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, Anglin-Norcross Limited. The architects are Fleming & Smith.

4 McGill Students In Industrial Quiz

Four McGill students will participate in a student-industrial quiz at the annual meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association early next month.

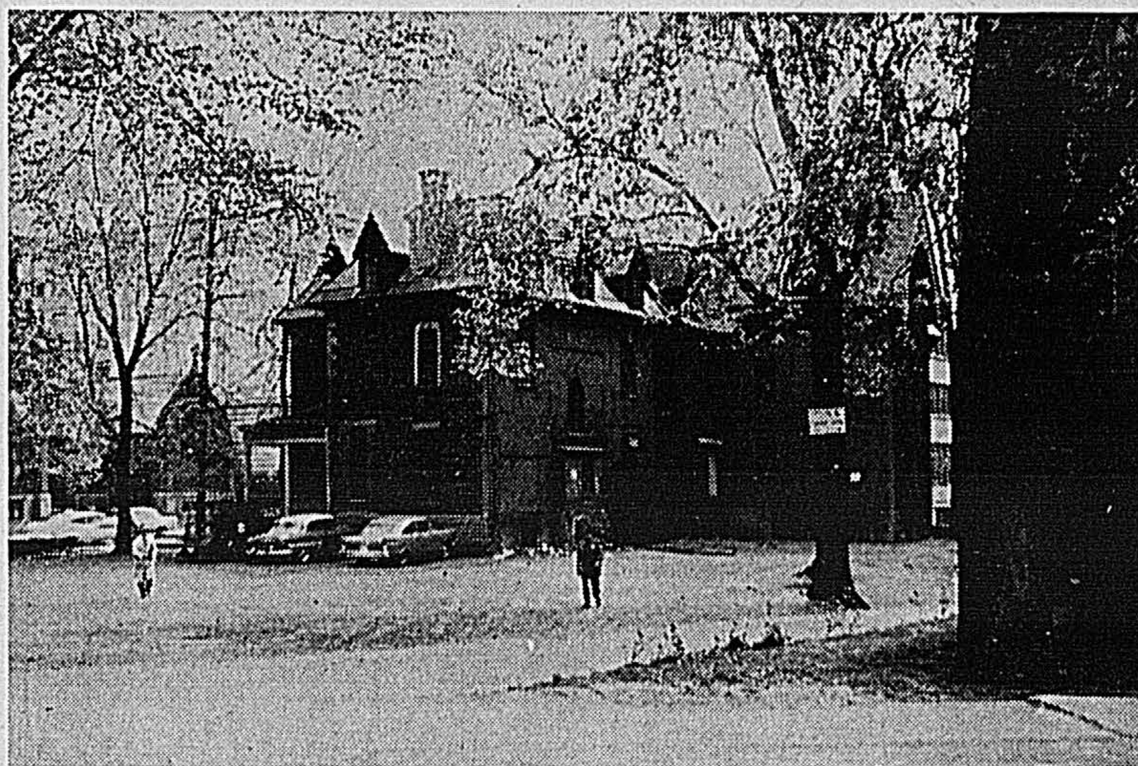
The four are Joan Fish, Chairman of the '57 Blood Drive; John Wallace, '58 Convocation Activities Chairman; Roy Heenan, Students' Society President-elect; and Louis Donolo, Students' Society President.

Other schools represented are the University of Montreal, Loyola, Montreal Technical Institute, and Sir George Williams College.

The session is open to all members of the Students' Society and the faculty. It is scheduled for 2:15 pm, June 5, at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. The theme of the plenary conference is "Education for Industrial Achievement".

The annual meeting which is the 87th annual gathering of the Manufacturers' Association, will be held on June 3, 4, and 5. Among the guests will be General A. M. Gruenther and Prime Minister John Diefenbaker.

Milton's Paradise Lost



Daily Photo by Dave Mayerovitch

UNIVERSITY AND MILTON Streets is the site of the new Engineering building. The buildings presently standing here are being demolished. On the right is part of the old Engineering building.

The new structure will accommodate the School of Architecture, the Department of Electrical Engineering, drafting rooms, and two large lecture theatres.



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A Letter From The Graduates

Today marks the culmination of four years of college education for many of us. Some of us have been here even longer. During our years of study at McGill many changes have taken place both within the university and in the world at large.

When we entered university, it was still possible for us to "work our way through college" through summer jobs and savings. The average fees were \$375 per year and most of us did not have to borrow too much to get by.

Also we were being taught by professors who were all well known and recognized experts in their fields and whose salaries, though low, were still comparable to those of their colleagues at other schools.

The classes in those days were smaller and if you were lucky you might even be able to meet with your professor and discuss the problems that came up during the course of your studies. Even for a large college, McGill was a friendly, "one big happy family" type of place.

In the fall of 1956, after our first year of college, we returned to McGill to find many new faces among our teachers. Some of the bigger "names" had left the university and had been replaced by inexperienced young men who themselves barely graduated or who were still working for their own higher degrees.

The classes had become more crowded, and classes of 300 and more were not unheard of. Teaching had become more impersonal, lectures were large and formal with little or no opportunity for questions, discussions, and the personal guidance which is so basic to a higher education.

A year later, our fees were increased. For many of us this was a serious step. We were hard pressed to earn the \$375 that we had paid the previous semester but now the cost of our education had risen to an average of \$475. Some of our classmates were unable to meet the increase and that is why they are not with us today. Summer jobs, although there were plenty to be had, did not pay enough to cover fees, books, and for some of us the cost of living. Many of us had to take part-time jobs during the course of the school term. This did not leave much time for studying, let alone the extra-curricular activities that can make a college life a rich and memorable experience.

Although the fees had gone up, the teacher situation had not improved. The few devoted faculty members who had decided to remain at McGill, for one reason or another, had to be prepared to accept a salary considerably lower than that offered by other universities. Still more members of the staff decided to take new jobs where their salaries were almost double what McGill was able to pay. The situation was becoming more acute each year.

Meanwhile, the Federal government offered to help the universities of Canada by putting aside 50 million dollars to be distributed over a period of years. McGill was to receive over a million a year. The money certainly would have gone a long way toward alleviating the financial burden of the school. This annual grant seemed to be the answer to many of the problems facing Old McGill.

As you all know by now, McGill couldn't accept this money. The reasons were: "In view of the fact that all universities in the province

of Quebec are now receiving provincial grants which they might not continue to receive if federal grants were accepted, and of the fact that the agreement between the Government of Canada and the National Conference of Canadian Universities provides that 'where a university does not accept a grant ... (that) grant will be held by the Conference until the Conference receives from the university an application for payment of (that) grant or a portion thereof', McGill University, in common with its sister-institutions throughout the Province of Quebec, decided to return the federal grant to the National Conference of Canadian Universities to be held in trust until the problems that surround the whole matter can be clarified..."

Even this year, as we leave the university, the fees have again been raised. The average fee for next year will be \$575. We need not reiterate the difficulties that this raise in tuition will cause for the many students who are already feeling the strain of the high cost of learning. And this summer is a particularly difficult one. Jobs are scarce. Savings are low. To earn the necessary money over a period of three or four months is next to impossible. Without help from parents, or a loan from other sources, a student can hardly be able to continue his education. Part-time jobs, which seemed to provide the little extra cash last year, won't provide enough this year to cover the basic costs of schooling.

The federal grant situation has not changed. McGill still cannot use the money that is waiting for her in the bank at Ottawa. The public has helped. But that is not enough.

McGill is a privately endowed institution. What does this mean? It means that the university has acquired, through bequests and gifts through the years, capital investments totalling 50 million dollars. The interest on this money, about 2 million dollars per annum, is used to offset the costs of the running of the university, without leaving any for expansion.

Despite this fact, the deficit this year is so large that the university is forced to use part of this capital to clear itself. The result of this process is quite obviously disastrous. The smaller the capital becomes, the less interest it brings, and consequently the university debts mount by leaps and bounds. And so more and more of the capital is constantly used to clear up the annual, ever-mounting debt. This is a vicious circle and unless something is done about this situation in the very near future the university will be in serious trouble.

What are the answers to this problem? As we see it, there are two solutions: (a) The provincial government should set up a system of sufficiently large statutory grants so as to guarantee to McGill an annual income which could offset its rising costs. As the university grows, and the cost of its upkeep increases, the amount of money which the provincial government will have to provide would be very large indeed. As recent events have indicated, the Quebec government has refused to meet this need. The amount required is constantly increasing. Judging the future from the past behaviour of the Duplessis administration toward educational problems, it seems very unlikely that McGill could depend on provincial aid to meet her financial responsibilities. This solution seems

hardly feasible, under the present administration. (b) To use a trite phrase, "now is the time for all good friends to come to the help of 'Old McGill'". As all the universities in Canada, and indeed in the whole of North America, are facing the tremendous task of accommodating an ever-growing population that is more eager than ever to obtain a higher education, they turn to you as the parents, as university graduates and as enlightened citizens interested in the welfare of your country to lend a hand.

We have mentioned paying off an annual debt. But there are more uses to which added income could be put besides paying off the costs of the day to day running of Old McGill.

McGill must once again regain her prestige as one of the leading centres of learning in the world. How can she do this?

McGill could again take her place in the front ranks if she were able to offer the salaries that other schools do. We need not lose all our best men to the American colleges, to industry, or even to high schools. We should pay these men the same salaries, or more, as they are able to earn at any of the other jobs that seem to be luring them from our faculty. This we could do if the operating expenses of the university as it is today were taken care of without the need of eating away our capital investments and appealing to the public every few years.

But besides the need for more and better professors to teach us, we need the physical accommodations for a university of our size and calibre. We need new laboratories, new and larger classrooms, more lecture halls and a new Union building where students and professors alike could meet and talk in a congenial atmosphere. All these and many other necessary projects are being planned by the authorities. But planning is not enough. Action is what is needed in these difficult times; We must begin today to implement the many ideas that have been lying on the shelf for so long.

The way to go about implementing these proposals is to secure the money to pay for them. Sounds simple? It is as straightforward as that. The plans are ready. The need is there. The only thing that is not available is the money to pay for the realization of these plans.

As we stated earlier in this letter, we think that there are two solutions. The first seems to be highly unworkable at the present time. The other involves You. We as graduates of McGill University realize our responsibilities. We have seen, at first hand, the problems facing our Alma Mater. We realize the problems facing the students who will be entering McGill next year, and the year after next. Although these problems do not in fact touch us personally, nevertheless we as Graduates feel keenly aware both of their existence and their importance. It is not for ourselves that we seek this assistance. We have graduated. For the majority of us, our formal education is at an end. But because we are university graduates we have come to realize the vital importance of a university training and of the role which McGill has played and will continue to play in the building of free, strong and ever-growing Canada.

We will do our part. Can we count on you to help?

Here Are Some of the Facts

WHY?

It is high time that the people of Quebec started asking a few pertinent questions about the problem of higher education in this province. Why is it that Quebec University students pay the highest fees in Canada? Why are their professors forced to accept lower salaries? Why is it that the universities are so hard pressed that, as both Monsignor Lussier and Dr. F. C. James have pointed out, their existence is threatened?

The reason behind the dilemma of universities in Quebec is largely the attitude of the provincial government. It seems strange that in the same year that the neighbouring province of Ontario gives \$21 million to their universities and Premier Frost describes university education as part of "Ontario's most important and absorbing problem", Mr. Duplessis can find only a quarter of that sum and can claim that university education is the parents' responsibility. It is amazing that in the present era, and in the light of present discoveries, responsible officials can adopt such an antiquated view of education. It is time to face the facts.

In this our province — one of Canada's richest, we believe there is no excuse for the backward state in which institutions of higher learning find themselves. Quebec must develop internally, and must make her own cultural contribution to the rest of Canada. She can only do so through adequate support of her universities. The facts show that she is not doing this at present.

Further university education should not be made a political issue. The needs of universities are such that any money which is freely given should be accepted. The universities of Quebec are doomed otherwise. It is time for the government of the Province to realize and to assume its responsibility toward higher education.

Can You Afford It?

It should be noted that the actual cost can be increased over these basic costs by as much as one-third to cover such items as books, supplies, transportation and entertainment, clothing and other personal expenses. The average basic cost for Canada amounts to \$850. per annum per student, but the actual cost probably comes to closer to an average of \$1,200.

These basic costs by geographic areas are shown as follows:

Maritime Provinces

Newfoundland	\$ 525.00
Prince Edward Island	485.00
Nova Scotia	750.00
New Brunswick	745.00
Average Maritimes	700.00

Quebec	1,170.00
Ontario	915.00

Western Provinces

Manitoba	700.00
Saskatchewan	750.00
Alberta	780.00
British Columbia	740.00
Average Western	745.00

Average for Canada	850.00
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The following is a table of fees at the larger Canadian Universities:

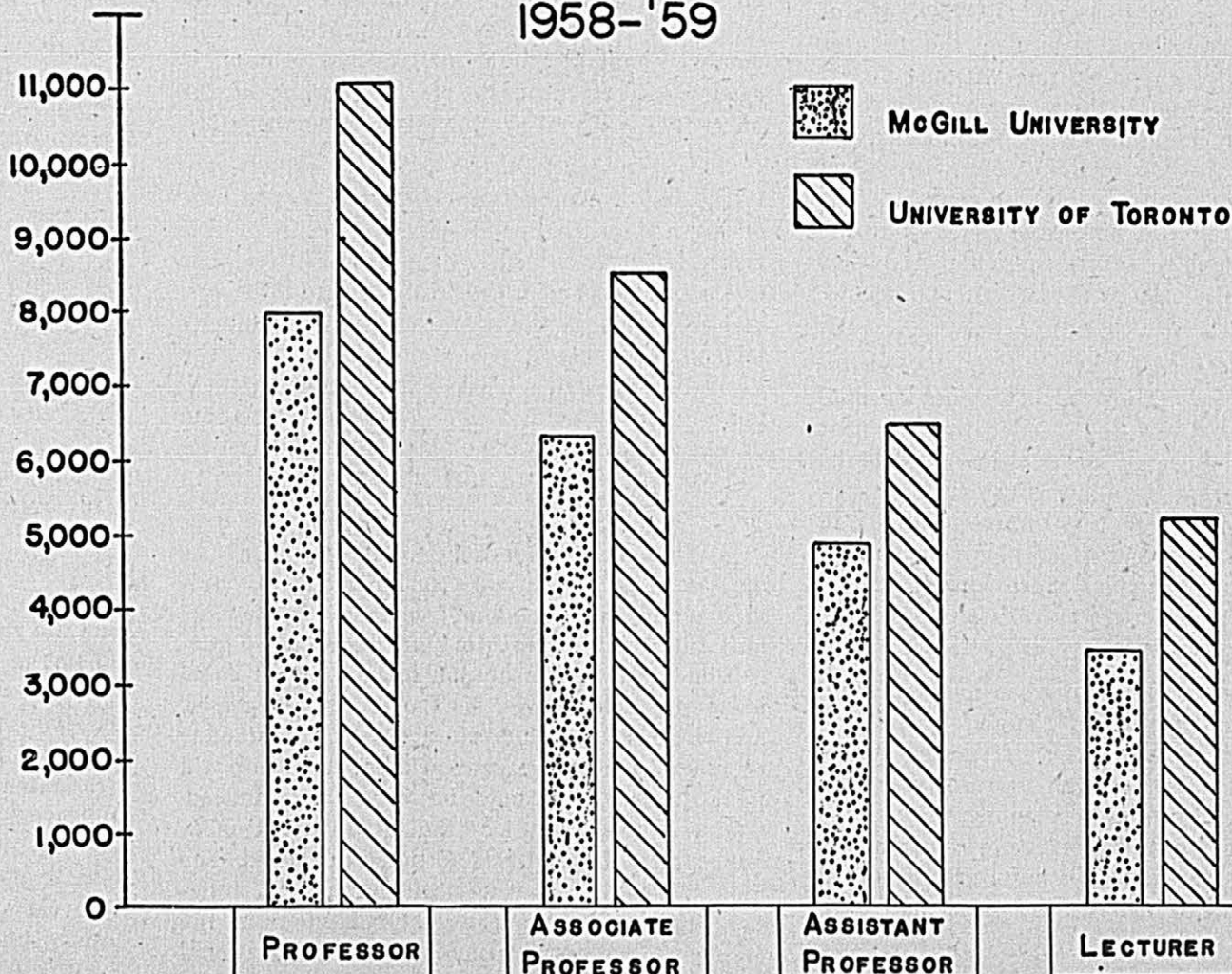
	Arts & Science	Engineering	Law	Medicine	Commerce
McGill	\$550	\$700	\$525	\$750	\$550
Toronto	380	546	410	596	399
U. B. C.	246	296	296	451	296
Western	375	450	—	585	385

The graph at the right contrasts the minimum staff salaries of the University of Toronto and McGill.

Our own university has always maintained a position, and a reputation, in the forefront of Canadian universities. This position and reputation is largely, if not entirely due to the quality of the men who teach — one need only think of the names of Rutherford, Osler and Leacock to appreciate how McGill made this reputation. To continue as she has McGill must be able to pay her professors a figure comparable to other leading institutions in Canada.

The graph shows how we are falling behind. Note for instance that the minimum salary for an Associate Professor at Toronto is higher than that of a full Professor at McGill.

COMPARISON OF MINIMUM STAFF SALARIES 1958-'59



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